

CONFIDENTIALCLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ / SOURCE / USECOUNTRY Soviet Zone of GermanyREPORT NO. FLO 623TOPIC Troop Movements through STENDAL

25X1

2. Maneuvers in JERICHOV Area25X1
EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 25X1
DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 23 November 1949REFERENCES 9PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS **RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY**

25X1

26 September 1949

1. A south-bound train, carrying 30 to 35 tanks, mostly T34, several trucks, one field kitchen and troops, passed through STENDAL (M 53/Y 85). One truck, was identified.

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3 and 4 October 1949

2. a. Tank units with 70 to 80 T34 tanks and about 150 motor vehicles, mostly trucks, passed through STENDAL during the night of 3 October 1949 and proceeded south. Most of the trucks were loaded with gasoline drums.

b. Heavy artillery fire was heard south of STENDAL in the afternoon of 4 October 1949.

1 October 1949

3. Large-scale maneuvers of troops of various branches of service were started in the JERICHOV (M 53/Y 84) area. The troops allegedly launched an attack from area east of the Elbe River, crossed the Elbe River and penetrated as far as Letzling Heath.

Comment:

a. large-scale maneuvers were conducted east of the Elbe River, north of the BURG-ALTEN-GRABOW-BELZIG line from 1 to 12 (?) October 1949. The following movements observed since late September 1949 may have been connected with these maneuvers:

(1) Component units of the 94th Gds Ltz Rifle Div left the SCHWERIN-WISMAR area by rail and road, heading south.

(2) South-bound troop trains and motor vehicle columns passed through WITTSTOCK and STENDAL at an increased rate.

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(3) units (of the 13th Mecz Div) moved by road from the WITOSTOK-SCHNEEBERICH training area to the southwest.

(4) Troops of the STENDAL military post (207th Mtz Rifle Div) left towards MAGDEBURG.

(5) Troops of the BURG military post (136th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt and GONG artillery units) were seen to leave.

b. It can be assumed that the large-scale maneuvers were held as the final exercises of the Third Shock Army. Although it was not reported, it is considered possible that component units of other armies (Second Gds Mecz Army or Third Gds Mecz Army (Cadre)) may have participated in these maneuvers. The information that the maneuvers extended as far as the Litzling Heath cannot be rated.

c. The river-crossing practices at HAVELBERG and LEUSTADT on the Dosse River in late September 1949 are considered special exercises which were not directly linked with the large-scale maneuvers in the area north of the BURG-ALTENGRABOW-BLEIZIG line. It is, however, possible that these exercises were conducted by units which were en route to the maneuver area north of the BURG-BLEIZIG line.

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